(d) Yes, Sir, the issuance of refunds is in accordance with the guidelines. It has always been the endeavour of the department to issue refunds to the tax payers at the earliest. Instructions are issued from time to time to expedite the processing and issuance of the refunds. However, in some cases, there is delay in processing of returns due to manpower constraints, technical reasons like problems in software application etc. Delay in issue of refunds is at times attributable tc assessees on account of deficiencies in bank account details, wrong address and lack of PAN details.

The statutory time limit to process returns and issue refunds for returns received in the financial year 2008-09 is 31/03/2010. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has instructed the field formations in 2008 to process the return within six months of the filing of the return and issue the refund, wherever due. Owing to software compatibility, there has been a slowdown in the processing of returns. The situation is expected to improve through stabilisation of the system and gradual adoption of centralized computer based processing of returns.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to (d) above.

Low fare domestic airline

*349. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:
SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to start a chartered domestic airline;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of aircrafts with Government at present;

(d) whether Government is contemplating to purchase more aircrafts for starting low fare domestic airline; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The total number of aircraft as on 21 July, 2009 with Air India (including owned and leased) are 157.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Subsidy provided to various departments

*350. SHRI RAM CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount given as subsidy to various departments in a year, Department-wise, during the last three years;

Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.